

GLOBAL AIRPORTS FORUM— GLOBAL AVIATION ISSUES CONFERENCE



NICHÉ
IDEAS



Dec 16-17, 2025 ✈️ Riyadh, Saudi Arabia



AGENDA

(Subject to change)

Day 1: Setting the Stage for Transformation

Tuesday, December 16

Lanyards- Sponsored by Chicago (Ill.) Department of Aviation
Delegate conference bags - Sponsored by San Francisco (Calif.) International Airport

8:30-9 a.m. Networking Breakfast

9-9:15 a.m. Welcome and Overview

Heba Gouda
Vice President, Global Operations
American Associations of Airport Executives

Kevin Bumen, A.A.E., C.A.E. *IAAE Chair/AAAE Secretary/Treasurer*
Chief Financial and Commercial Officer | Finance & Commercial
San Francisco International Airport

Raed bin Hassan Al-Idrissi
CEO
MATARAT

9:15- 10:15 Overview of Global Aviation Trends, Industry Outlook

9:15-9:35 a.m. **Keynote Speaker**
Dr. Bader Al Aydi
Chairman, Aviation Department

Prince Sultan University
PSU Strategic Direction in Enabling the Saudi Aviation Strategy.

9:35-9:55 a.m.

Keynote Speaker

Aiman Arab
Chairman
Egyptian Holding Company Aviation and Air Navigation (EHCAAN)
Overview of Egyptian Airports Development Program

9:55-10:15 a.m.

Keynote Speaker

Ali Rashed
Chief, Airport Operations
Bahrain Airport
ORAT case study for Bahrain Airport

10:15-11:30 a.m.

Session 1: AI and Automation in Smart Airports

Exploring the role of AI, automation, and digital transformation in airport operations. Industry leaders will discuss innovations driving smarter airports and the future of automated systems.

Sponsored by Shaheen AI

10 Minutes

Introduction Presentation

Ashish Gupta
Chief Marketing Office- Kloudspot
Shaheen AI

Moderator:

Jihad Boueri
Vice President, Strategy & Transformation - Middle East & Africa
SITA

Speaker:

Ashish Gupta
Chief Marketing Office- Kloudspot
AI Shaheen

Nabil Cheqroun
VP-GM, Honeywell Building Automation
Middle East, Turkiye, and Africa
Honeywell

Andrija Brstina
Head of Process Excellence

Abu Dhabi Airports

Evgeny Reklings
Global Industry Manager – Airports
SICK Sensor Intelligence

Sukhviri Mavi
Director, Commercial Pilot, Aviation & Aerospace
King Salman International Airport

11:30-12pm **Networking Break** (*official opening of the Global Airports Forum (formerly the Saudi Airport Exhibition)*)

12-1pm **Session 2: Attracting the Next Generation – AI and Workforce Innovation**
This session will explore the challenges the aviation industry faces in attracting future leaders and younger generations to pursue careers in aviation. With aviation programs struggling to appeal to high school students, panelists will discuss strategies to make the industry more attractive. Topics will include the role of regulators, airlines, airports, and universities in promoting aviation careers, successful workforce development initiatives, and international best practices that can be adapted across regions. Additionally, the session will examine how AI and emerging technologies can support workforce innovation and skills development.

Moderator: Bader Al Aydi
Chairman, Aviation Department
Prince Sultan University

Speakers: Julius Norkunas
CEO
Aeroclass.org

Mashael Al Qahtani
Nationalization Director
GACA

Azmat Aulakh, CCM
NY/NJ Area Manager
Jenkins, Gales & Martinez, Inc (JGM)

Majid Khan
CEO
Air Connectivity Program Saudi Arabia

Abdul Razzak Mikati
Managing Director
Dubai Technology Partners LLC (DTP)

1- 2 pm.

SESSION 3- The Rise of Space ports in Aviation – Bridging Aerospace and Commercial Airports -

Exploring the integration of spaceports into commercial aviation, addressing regulatory, operational, and business opportunities for airports in the growing space industry.

Moderator:

Jeanne Olivier, A.A.E., IACE
Airport Management Advisor & Past Chair, AAAE

Speakers:

David Buczek **(TBC)**
Senior Representative
U.S. FAA, Abu Dhabi

Michael J. O'Donnell ,AAE **(Confirmed)**
O'Donnell Aerospace Consulting

Berta Fernandez **(TBC)**
Executive Vice President
Landrum & Brown

Carole Aramouni **(TBC)**
Project Manager- Head of Architectural Design Unit
Dar Al Handasah

2-3:30 p.m.

Networking Lunch and Visit with Global Airports Forum Exhibitors

3:30-4:30 p.m.

Session 4: Airline Industry Trends and Regional Growth

Post-pandemic recovery, fleet modernization, air cargo expansion, ground handling innovations, and sustainability efforts. How airlines are adapting to the changing aviation landscape.

Sponsored by InterVISTAS Consulting

3:30-3:40 p.m.

Keynote Speaker

Solomon Wong
CEO
InterVISTAS Consulting, Colorado

Moderator:

Kevin Bumen, A.A.E., C.A.E. *IAAE Chair/AAAE Secretary/Treasurer*
Chief Financial & Commercial Officer | Finance & Commercial
San Francisco International Airport

Speakers:

Julius Norkunas
CEO
Aeroclass.org

Hamdi Osman
Founder and CEO
SolitAir Holding Ltd.

Abdelilah Aleidi
Vice President of Global Sales
Flynas

David Fiore, JD, C.M.
Airport Affairs, Operations & Planning
FedEx Express

Usman Tahir
Principal
Roland Berger Middle East, Dubai

4:30-5:45 p.m.

Session 5: Enhancing Passenger Experience and Operational Readiness

This session will focus on innovations and strategies to elevate the passenger experience, including biometric technology, contactless solutions, and future terminal redesigns. Additionally, it will address

operational readiness, risk management, and contingency planning for smooth airport operations.

Moderator: Chris Rous
Head of Middle East & Africa, Airports and Border Authorities
Amadeus

Speakers: Susan Warner Dooley, A.A.E., IAP
Aviation Chief Commercial Officer
Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

Delip Prasad
Head of Market MENA
Munich Airport International

Chris Jack
Program Director at Neom Airports
Charity Chair/Trustee, Business Coach
AECOM

Ali Bora Isbulan
Deputy CEO
Plaza Premium Group

Natalie Salinas
Founder & CEO
Nth Consulting Groupf

Amr Akaybi
Regional Manager for Projects
Honeywell

Hesham A. Saeed
Vice President of Operations
Ports Projects Management and Development (PPMDC)

7-9 p.m.

Official Conference Dinner

Hosted by General Authority of Civil Aviation (GACA)/MATARAT Holding

Day Two: Shaping the Future: Innovation, Resilience, and Connectivity in Aviation

Wednesday, December, 17

8:30-9 a.m. Networking Breakfast

9-10 a.m. **Session 6: Advanced Air Mobility-** *This session will examine how Advanced Air Mobility, including eVTOL technologies, is reshaping aviation in line with Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 through innovation, regulation, and sustainable urban mobility initiative.*

Moderator: Mohammed Al Bayoud
Expert of Advance Air Mobility Regulations
GACA

Speakers: Steven Derengowski CM, IACE
Director, Innovation
InterVISTAS Consulting, Denver.Co

Fahad ibne Masood, MRAeS
Strategic Aviation Leader | Pioneering Regulatory Frameworks for
UAS, AAM and eVTOL |
Airport Management
PSU

Khurram Qureshi
Head of Portfolio & Stakeholder Management
Dubai Air Navigation Services (dans)
Dubai International Airport

Eng. Daniyar Tule
Chief Flight Inspection Engineer
Samana Special Mission

Mohammed Rabiah
Director
Saudi Public Investment Fund (PIF), Aviation

10-11 a.m. **Session 7: The Future of Aviation in a Sustainable World**
Industry leaders discuss global decarbonization efforts and the role of

Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF), green technologies, and innovations in reducing the aviation industry's carbon footprint.

Moderator: Dr. Mohammad Nurunnabi
Founding Director - Center for Sustainability and Climate
Aide to the President; Chair - Accounting
Prince Sultan University

Speaker: Emad Alharbi
Mobility Decarbonizations Director
SWD

Al Waleed Al Omary
Head of Aviation Unit, National Development
Public Investment Fund, Saudi Arabia

M. P. Rajasekharan
Director, TecBharat Aviation Private Limited
Mar Projects

11-11:30 a.m. **Networking Break with GAF Exhibitors**

11:30 a.m.-
12:30 p.m. **Session 8: The Power of Aviation Connectivity**
Exploring how airports and regions leverage connectivity to drive development. The session will discuss the role of data, international and local airport business models, and the function of hubs in fostering growth.

Moderator: Kevin Bumen, A.A.E., C.A.E. *IAAE Chair/AAAE Secretary/Treasurer*
Chief Financial and Commercial Officer | Finance & Commercial
San Francisco International Airport

Speakers: Raffi Kasparian
Managing Director
Alton Aviation Consultancy (Dubai)

Mohsin Abdul Jawad
Head of Brand & Communication
Air Connectivity Program Saudi Arabia

Khalid Al Harthi
Advisor Vice President of Strategy
GACA

Syed Aftab Gilani
Chief Operator Officer (COO)
Islamabad International Airport

Ashwag Alghamdi
Senior Director, Business Unit Aviation Relations
The Saudi Tourism Authority

12:30-1:30 p.m.

Session 9: Optimizing Airspace Management: Balancing Growth, Innovation, and Operational Efficiency

Focus on addressing airspace congestion, integrating new technologies, and enhancing collaboration between stakeholders to ensure efficiency and safety in high-density regions.

Moderator:

Captain Fahad ibne Masood, MRAS
Strategic Aviation Leader | Pioneering Regulatory Frameworks for UAS, AAM & eVTOL | Faculty – Aviation Management, Airport Management Business & Economics
PSU

Speakers:

Dr. Ahmed Al Zuhairi
Vice President, Safety
Riyadh Air

Joseph Alesia
Executive Director, Head of Advanced Air Mobility
NEOM

Marcos Costilla
President & CEO, MCACG.US

Marzouq Al Ghamdi
Senior Instructor of ATM, Air Traffic Control
SACA

1:30 p.m. Conference Adjournment

1:30-5 p.m. Networking Lunch and visit with Exhibitors